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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Makiko SAITO  
Title: AUCTION SYSTEM USING NETWORK AND AUCTION PROGRAM AS WELL AS STORAGE MEDIUM ON WHICH PROGRAM IS STORED  
Application No.: 10/083,471  
Filing Date: 02/27/2002  
Examiner: Patel, Jagdish  
Art Unit: 3624

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued September 13, 2005 with respect to a corresponding Japanese patent application is provided below.

Claims: 1 through 14  
Cited Prior Art: 1, 2 and 3

Remarks

References 1 and 2 cited in the last Office Action disclose . . . promoting business transaction or sales to reduce a certain transaction cost in an auction system or to suggest related products along with the purchased product in a general transaction.

List of Cited Prior Art

1. JP 11-073567
2. JP 07-049983
3. JP 10-241052

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

**STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date October 13, 2005

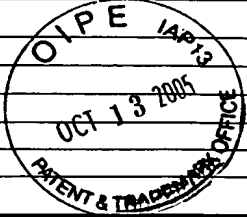
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				<b>Application Number</b>	10/083,471
Date Submitted: October 13, 2005				<b>Filing Date</b>	02/27/2002
(use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Makiko SAITO
Sheet 1 of 1				<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3624
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Patel, Jagdish
				<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	067183-0194



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	B1	JP	11-073567		TOKYO ELEC. CO.	03-16-1999		ABS
	B2	JP	07-049983		Omron Corp.	02-21-1995		ABS
	B3	JP	10-241052		TOKYO ELEC. CO.	09-11-1998		ABS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

<b>Examiner Signature</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.